SCIENTIFIC NOTE NEW RECORD OF ZORAPTERA IN DELAWARE¹

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The order Zoraptera is represented by two species in the Nearctic region. Floridazoros snyderi is known from Florida and Jamaica (Gurney, 1938) and Usazoros hubbardi is known from the eastern US, as far west as Kansas and as far north as Wappello County, Iowa (Reigel and Ferguson, 1960) and Adams County, Pennsylvania (Reigal, 1963). Both of these species were moved from the genus Zorotypus by Kukalova-Peck (1993).

On 28 November 1998, I collected two nymphs and one apterous adult of U. hubbardi in Frenchtown Woods Natural Area in Glasgow, Delaware. A second visit to the site on 30 November 1998 yielded two additional apterous adults, only one of which was collected. All specimens were found under the bark of the trunk of a large, dead, deciduous tree. The collection site was surrounded by vernal wetland habitat with sweetgum-yellow poplar forest cover type (Eyre, 1980). Based on aerial photos and site observations, the site has not been disturbed for at least 60 years. Subsequent visits to the site in November of 1999 did not yield any more specimens.

U. hubbardi was last collected in Delaware in 1958 near Laurel (Gurney, 1959). That record, along with the Pennsylvania record, were from sawdust piles. This is the most northeastern collection of Zoraptera in their natural habitat.

All specimens are deposited in the University of Delaware Reference Collection.

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